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CONFIRMATION NO. ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. **FILING DATE** FIRST NAMED INVENTOR 6820

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Akihisa Hosoe

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**EXAMINER** 

KILIMAN, LESZEK B

**ART UNIT** PAPER NUMBER

1773

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1773

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

2. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP '378, EP '739, JP '176 or JP '117.

See EP '378, Abstract, Disclosure of the Invention, page 3, page 4, page 5, Figure 4, EP '739, Abstract, pages 1-9, Figure 1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Leszek Kiliman at telephone number 703-308-2373.

L. Kiliman/mn March 18, 2003

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